FROST IN THE GRAND VALLEY.

The following is based on information furnished by the official in charge, local office, United States Weather Bureau, Grand Junction, Colo.:

On the night of April 12–13 an unusually hard freeze for the time of year occurred. Minimum temperatures as low as 15° and 16° were observed in portions of the Grand Valley. At the Weather Bureau office 23° was recorded, the lowest temperature on record at the station so late in spring. On the morning of the 13th the dewpoint was 8°, and on account of the dryness orchard-heating was difficult. Considerable damage was done to peaches and some varieties of pears, while apples and pears generally were not sufficiently far advanced to be injured materially. Ample advance notice was given of the expected low temperature. The State forecast on the morning of the 12th contained a notification of heavy frost or freezing temperature, and the information was widely disseminated by the Colorado Telephone Co. Early in the afternoon a special warning was issued from the Grand Junction office, calling attention to the probability of very low temperature and of the necessity of the most thorough preparation for protecting all kinds of fruit.

For several other nights frost warnings were issued and orchard-heating was necessary, but conditions were such that temperatures were readily kept above the danger point in the orchards.

COLORADO RIVER SIPHON.

Project Engineer Sellew has recently returned from New York, Boston, and other eastern cities where tunnel work was recently done, and having consulted with the owners of air-lock plants, examined the machinery, etc., found several plants that were suitable, and invited bids for the construction of a tunnel under the Colorado near Yuma.

The Secretary of the Interior awarded the contract to Dr. Charles A. Haskin, of Boston, for furnishing a compressed air plant for the use in the construction of the siphon under the Colorado River, in connection with the Yuma irrigation project, Arizona, the work to be completed within six months. The lease included the installation of the plant, and the services of the conductor in starting it satisfactorily, together with the services of a competent superintendent during the progress of the work. The siphon, which is 1,000 feet long, with a diameter of 15 feet, connects the main canal on the California side of the river with the irrigation system which will supply the broad valley below Yuma, Ariz. A power plant will be established later at the Arizona end to lift water to the rich mesa lands in the immediate neighborhood of Yuma, Ariz.